626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

## December 17, 2014

## **URGENT**

**TO:** Pharmacies

**FROM:** Apple Health (Washington State Medicaid)

**SUBJECT:** Hepatitis C treatment paid under FFS benefit

## **Hepatitis C Prior Authorization and Treatment Policy**

Effective for dates on and after January 1, 2015, immune modulators and anti-viral medications to treat chronic Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection will be excluded from the Apple Health Managed Care Organization's (MCO) benefit and will be covered through the Apple Health Fee-For-Service (FFS) program.

All pharmacy claims for immune modulators and anti-viral medications to treat HCV should be billed directly to the FFS program, rather than the client's managed care plan. Requests for authorization of these medications should be submitted according to normal FFS authorization procedures, by either:

- Faxing a Pharmacy Information Authorization form, <u>13-835A</u>, to the agency at 1-866-668-1214.
- Calling the agency at 1-800-562-3022.

Other medical and pharmaceutical services related to the diagnosis or treatment of HCV is still covered by the client's MCO.

Prior Authorization is required for anti-virals and interferons used to treat HCV infection. Clients already authorized by an MCO will automatically be authorized for continued payment under the FFS program without need to submit additional requests for authorization.

Specifically for HCV medications, prescribing providers may also request authorization by contacting the agency at 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15483 and stating they are requesting authorization for a HCV medication

- Please see <a href="http://www.hca.wa.gov/medicaid/pharmacy/Pages/index.aspx">http://www.hca.wa.gov/medicaid/pharmacy/Pages/index.aspx</a> for HCA

Hepatitis C Coverage Criteria -